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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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political commissar, it is the responsibility of the village authorities and party cell members to assist him.

3. Former officials of the Japanese and Nationalist governments may travel and move their residences under a permit system, but they have no voice in public meetings. Their only freedom is to engage in farming or join the army. Those who obey the state implicitly in all things are classified as good citizens; those who disobey are classified as reactionaries and are subject to exile or forced labor. Temples have been destroyed, and schools are used as meeting places.
4. Party members, families of public officials, and a segment of poor farmers support the Communist government, but farmers from the middle class and above and intellectuals are dissatisfied with the administration. Only about thirty percent of the population favors the administration. Those who oppose it, particularly the merchants, long for the return of the Nationalist government.
5. Education is compulsory, but there are almost as many illiterate children as there were under the former administration.

Economic conditions

6. Since the enforcement of land reform during the period December 1947 to December 1948, there was adequate food for everyone. However, other living necessities such as clothing are scarcer than during the Japanese administration. Prices of commodities have been stabilized and no longer rise or fall sharply. After the enforcement of currency reform in the Northeast in March 1951, when the central People's Bank notes became legal tender, barter became popular among the people.
7. The government has been commandeering money and supplies. The government floated two installments of National Construction bonds, the first in August 1950 and the second in February 1951. A minimum of JMP 200,000 was allotted to wealthy farmers and JMP 70,000 to ordinary farmers. In early 1951 each village was required to supply two horse-carts and ten horses each year, and each household was required to turn in two kilograms of dried vegetables. In requisitioning crops, burned and waste lands are classified as third-class land and plains and paddy fields are classified up to the thirtieth grade. The proportion of crops requisitioned in accordance with the grade of land is as follows: third-grade land about ten percent of the harvest, eighteenth-grade land about twenty-five percent of the harvest, and thirtieth-grade land about fifty percent of the harvest.

Airfield Repairs

8. In May 1950, in accordance with the request of the Sino-Soviet Friendship Associations in Kungchuling, Tunhua, and T'unghua Hsien, each ts'ur (鄉) was required to furnish five laborers for a period of ten days to repair the airfields in these hsien.

Conscription

9. Since 8 December 1950, mass meetings have been held in each hsien and village under the auspices of the party commissar, women's association, and youth corps to exhort men between the ages of 18 and 25 to join the "Resist America and Aid Korea Volunteer Army." One to two men from each ts'ur have volunteered. The first group of volunteers from Shuangyang Hsien totaled about 200 men. On 15 January 1951, the central government proclaimed the conscription of civilian stretcher-bearers and laborers, and the same methods used for conscripting volunteer troops

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were used in the conscription of these men. One to two men were conscripted from each ts'un, four to five men from each village, about 20 from each district, and from 200 to 300 from each hsien. A total of over 6,000 were conscripted from Kirin Province. About 4,000 men were organized into two stretcher-bearer regiments, and the remaining 2,000 were organized into a labor regiment. The conscription was enforced throughout the five Northeastern provinces.

10. On 16 February 1951, these men entrained from Changchun for Antung, where they underwent 20 days of training in stretcher-bearing techniques and road repair. On 7 March, they crossed the Yalu River at Antung, and travelling on foot at night, the labor regiment headed toward Anju or Pyongyang, and the stretcher-bearer regiments headed toward the 38th Parallel. The stretcher-bearer regiments reached Hap'yong-ni, about nineteen miles south of Chorwon, on 18 May, and were assigned to the 60 Army. On 21 May, while engaged in the evacuation of wounded soldiers, they came under United Nations machine-gun fire and were dispersed.

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